



Montana  
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## THINK FOOD

### School Nutrition Programs Shipment 5 November 2015



#### **USDA FOOD Shipment 5 Update**

The USDA Foods shipment schedule for SY 2015-2016 is located on the Office of Public Instruction (OPI) School Nutrition website under Commodity Information.

This website is located at:

[http://www.opi.mt.gov/Programs/SchoolPrograms/School\\_Nutrition/USDA.html](http://www.opi.mt.gov/Programs/SchoolPrograms/School_Nutrition/USDA.html). Please remember the schedule is subject to change based on USDA Foods availability.

#### **Extra items for schools with entitlement money left:**

Strawberry, slices	30#	(699)	\$34.93
Peaches, canned	6/#10	(625)	\$35.09
Tomato paste	6/#10	(546)	\$23.07
Beans, Great Northern	6/#10	(507)	\$13.73
Strawberry cups	96/4.5 oz	(474)	\$45.96
Ground beef	4/10#	(394)	\$122.02
Cheese, mozz	30#	(381)	\$62.35
Mixed fruit	6/#10	(360)	\$37.87
Flour, whole wheat	8/5 lb	(332)	\$9.20
Vegetable oil	6/1 gal	(292)	\$23.08
Turkey deli breasts	4/10#	(285)	\$115.69
Beans, black	6/#10	(272)	\$15.48
Pears, canned	6/#10	(206)	\$32.25
Eggs, frozen	6/5#	(176)	\$91.22
Apple slices, canned	6/#10	(131)	\$33.12
Rice, brown, long	24/2#	(116)	\$29.07
Bean, vegetarian	6/#10	(74)	\$13.75
Spaghetti, WG	2/10#	(63)	\$7.83
Applesauce	6/#10	(45)	\$19.94
Pancakes, frozen	144/case	(44)	\$8.69
Tortillas, frozen	12/case	(16)	\$16.47
Peanut butter	6/5#	(12)	\$29.99
Tomatoes, diced	6/#10	(11)	\$13.65

The amounts listed in parenthesis are approximately the number of cases available. Please send an email to [tbailly@mt.gov](mailto:tbailly@mt.gov) with food item and quantity requests by *Tuesday, November 3, 2015*.

#### **Newsletter is Online, Too!**

Please remember all issues of the Think Food Newsletter are on the OPI School Nutrition website at [http://opi.mt.gov/Programs/SchoolPrograms/School\\_Nutrition/USDA.html#gpm1\\_6](http://opi.mt.gov/Programs/SchoolPrograms/School_Nutrition/USDA.html#gpm1_6).

#### **USDA Foods Update**

##### **MOVING ON SHIPMENT SCHEDULE:**

##### **Chicken Tenders and Black Beans**

Due to the Avian Flu, Pilgrim's Pride has a shortage on certain ingredients they need to make the breeding on their chicken tenders. The schools that ordered chicken tenders for commodity processing will receive their first shipment orders on shipment 4, but Pilgrim's Pride could not provide us with our state's chicken tenders until shipment 5. So, in short, the chicken tenders will be moved to shipment 5 on the schedule. Because of this, the black beans have been moved from shipment 5 to shipment 4 to even out the loads.

##### **Carrots, Frozen**

Frozen carrots will be moved from shipment 8 to shipment 5 to help make room in the warehouse.

#### **Equipment Grants**

Apply for one of 11 \$5,000 School Nutrition Equipment Grants to be awarded by December 15. Applications are due by November 16, 2015.

[2015-16 School Nutrition Equipment Grant](#)

### **Webinar Series - Montana's Smarter Lunchrooms**

Montana Team Nutrition is hosting five 30-minute webinars to help participants make steps toward smarter lunchrooms. School nutrition professionals can receive 2.5 hours of continuing education and will learn:

- how making simple low/no cost changes to existing school lunchrooms lead students to eat better without knowing it;
- how Montana schools are stepping it up to design their cafeterias to nudge students to make healthier choices;
- customer service and marketing best practices to motivate students to select healthful items and decrease waste; and
- steps to take in successfully applying for a USDA HealthierUS School Challenge/Smarter Lunchroom Award.

The first three webinars are scheduled for the fall.

Discover the HealthierUS School Challenge: Smarter Lunchroom Award;

November 3 from 2-2:30 p.m.

For registration information, please go to this link:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4767943482563120642>

Montana Smarter Lunchrooms: Tips for a fast, friendly, and satisfying service line;

November 10 from 2-2:30 p.m.

For registration information, please go to this link:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2721149810900009986>

### **OPI Cooperative Purchase Program**

The winter 2016 cooperative bid is currently out for bid.

It is scheduled to be awarded on November 18, 2016.

The order form will be opened online via the OPI website under the School Nutrition Programs page on Monday, November 23, for any public or private school and residential child care institution that wishes to participate. All participating sponsors have until Tuesday, December 15, 2015, to complete and submit their orders. The required signature page must be received by the OPI office by this same deadline in order to confirm the submitted online order.

An administrative fee of three percent of the total invoices for the winter 2016 bid will be charged to each

participant in April, and payment is expected to be made within 45 days to the OPI Cooperative Purchasing Program.

For questions about the cooperative bid, please contact Cindy Giese, Cooperative Purchasing Coordinator at 406-366-9829 or [cgiese@mt.gov](mailto:cgiese@mt.gov).

### **Thank You**

The OPI School Nutrition staff would like to thank you for attending a School Nutrition Fall Workshop this September. We were happy to meet with you in person and work through the many rules, requirements, and regulations of the School Nutrition Programs. Please read and review the most common questions we received during the workshops this year. If you are the school food service director, please pass these messages along to your clerks and business managers as appropriate. Thank you for all of your dedication to feeding Montana students every day!

1. If you are interested in starting a backpack program or a pantry in your school, contact the Montana Food Bank Network and they will guide you through the process of making this happen. It is not a program that is administered by the OPI School Nutrition Programs office.
2. Smart Snacks and Concessions – The Smart Snack rule reads that any foods sold to students during the school day must meet Smart Snack guidelines. For athletic tournaments that occur during the school day, please consider who has access to concessions. If foods can be or are sold to students, these need to meet the Smart Snack standards accordingly.
3. Release of free/reduced information to Title Programs is allowable with a Memorandum of Understanding established between the school food service and the title program. This information is very confidential, and we need to respect the sensitivity of this information as best we can. See the Eligibility Manual on pages 81-84 for more detail.
4. Reminder! This year, applications with zero income are okay. If nothing is written in the income space of the application, this is taken to mean the household does not receive income and their application should be processed as such.

Please contact anyone at the OPI School Nutrition Programs at 406-444-2501 with questions as they arise.